

UNIVERSITY HILL UPDATE

From: Sarah K. Wiebenson
Hill Community Development Coordinator

To: University Hill Stakeholders

Date: Wednesday, February 25, 2015



TOMORROW: City Council to Host Special Meeting to Consider Proposed Building Height Cap

The **City Council** will host a special meeting at 6:00 p.m. Thursday (tomorrow) in Council Chambers to consider an ordinance that would limit exceptions to the citywide 38-foot building height cap. Hill stakeholders have expressed concerns that the proposed change would more significantly impact the Hill because of its unique topography, and that effectively reducing buildable height in the Hill Commercial Area would negatively impact Hill reinvestment progress. It has been suggested that the exception process (to allow a maximum height of 55 feet) continue to be allowed in the Hill and other areas well-served by transit. To date, letters in opposition to the change have been submitted to the Council by Hill stakeholders **Frisk Accessories**, **Grenadier Advertising** and the **University Hill Neighborhood Association**. A *Daily Camera* article about the meeting can be found [HERE](#).

Hill Moratorium FAQ Posted to Clarify Questions Raised in Recent Media Commentaries

A document created by City staff responds to questions raised in the *Daily Camera* editorial pages in the past week. Specifically, additional information is provided on: the purpose of the moratorium; the desire to maintain the Hill as a student-friendly district; the over-concentration of student housing in the Hill Commercial Area (approximately 10 units/acre); the rationale for not prohibiting senior and affordable housing; and the positive impact additional office space could have on the goal of a year-round vibrant commercial district. The FAQ can be viewed on the City's website [HERE](#).

Survey Finds Master Contract For Hill Employee Regional Bus Passes Is Feasible If Funding Secured

With an 88% response rate among the 92 businesses in the Hill Commercial Area, the City was able to determine that there are a sufficient number of full-time, non-student employees (351) on the Hill to be eligible for a master contract with **RTD** to obtain regional bus passes at a reduced rate. The full-time, non-student employees on the Hill had the highest rates of accessing the Hill by driving alone (68%). The next step will be to determine how the program could be funded, and if a master contract with RTD could be completed by mid-2015.

Hill Businesses Are Invited to Adopt-A-Planter for May-October Commercial District Beautification

The City is partnering with CU volunteer groups, the University Hill Neighborhood Association (UHNA) and The Hill Boulder business association to host a Hill Commercial Area cleanup on Saturday, April 18th. Current plans for the cleanup include the installation of planters at district intersections and gateways that are decorated by neighborhood children with the theme of 'arts and culture' and filled with a variety of colorful edible landscaping to represent the large number of dining establishments on the Hill. Businesses may contact the Hill Coordinator to 'adopt a planter' and be recognized as one of the partners in the beautification effort. Sponsorship opportunities are limited to 16. For more details, email: wiebenson@bouldercolorado.gov.

Upcoming Meetings

Thursday, Feb. 26 @ 9:00 a.m. – **The Hill Boulder** monthly breakfast meeting (Illegal Pete's, 1124 13th Street)

Thursday, Feb. 26 @ 6:00 p.m. – **City Council** consideration of height changes (Council Chambers, 1777 Broadway)

Tuesday, Mar. 3 @ 6:00 p.m. – **City Council** public hearing on the moratorium (Council Chambers, 1777 Broadway)